

Very truly yours,
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Attorney General

Senate Bill No. 625

AN ACT concerning

Product Liability - Sealed Container Defense

FOR the purpose of providing an affirmative a defense that can be raised to certain actions by certain product sellers who could not reasonably be expected to know of defects in the products; providing for certain exceptions; providing for the entry of summary judgment or the reinstatement of certain actions under certain circumstances; defining terms; and generally relating to the nonliability of the sellers of products.

BY adding to

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings
Section 5-309
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1980 Replacement Volume and 1981 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland read(s) as follows:

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

5-309.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

~~(2)--"MANUFACTURER"--INCLUDES-A-PRODUCT-SELLER-WHO DESIGNS,--ASSEMBLES,--FABRICATES,---CONSTRUCTS,---PROCESSES, PACKAGES,--OR-OTHERWISE-PREPARES-A-PRODUCT-OR-COMPONENT-PART OF-A-PRODUCT-PRIOR-TO-ITS-SALE-TO-A-USER--OR--CONSUMER.---IT INCLUDES--A--SELLER--OR--ENTITY-NOT-OTHERWISE-A-MANUFACTURER THAT-IMPORTS-A-PRODUCT-OR-OTHERWISE-HOLDS-ITSELF--OUT--AS--A MANUFACTURER.~~

(2) (1) "MANUFACTURER" MEANS A DESIGNER, ASSEMBLER, FABRICATOR, CONSTRUCTOR, COMPOUNDER, PRODUCER, OR PROCESSOR OF ANY PRODUCT OR ITS COMPONENT PARTS.